

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. In the non-final Office Action dated May 5, 2006, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Objected to the drawings.
- B.) Objected to the specification.
- C.) Rejected claims 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. §101.
- D.) Rejected claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Devine, et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0095399)* (“Devine”).
- E.) Rejected claims 3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Devine* in view of *Bracho, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,443)* (“Bracho”).

Applicant addresses the Examiner’s disposition below.

A.) Objection to the drawings:

The specification at page 9, line 7, has been amended to describe that the file server 150 includes a file server storage 154. File server storage 154 is also disclosed, for example, in Figures 1, 18, and 19. Figure 1 has also been amended to include a legend for some of the item labels.

Figure 2 has been amended to delete items 244 and 264. Figure 2 has also been amended to include a legend for some of the item labels.

Figure 6 has been amended to replace item --614-- with item --612--, item --616-- with item --614--, and item --618-- with item --616--.

The specification at page 24, line 12, has been amended to label the text associated with “step 710,” which is also identified in Figure 7.

Figure 9 has been amended to include a textual description.

Figure 18 has been amended to replace item --152-- with item --150--.

Figure 19 has been amended to replace item --152-- with item --150--.

Please replace the drawing sheets for Figures 1, 2, 6, 9, 18, and 19 with the replacement drawing sheets attached to the Submission of Corrected Drawings submitted herewith.

Additional amendments have been made to the specification, as described below in Section B, to correct informalities and to overcome the Examiner’s objections to the drawings.

These amendments are made as per the Examiner’s request to overcome the objections and to

correct informalities.

No new matter is introduced by the amendments made herein.

Applicant respectfully submits the objections have been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

B.) Objection to the specification:

The specification at page 21, line 7, has been amended to change the first occurrence of “step 622” to “step 620.”

The specification at page 24, line 21, has been amended to change “step 720” to “step 716.”

The specification at page 27, line 2, has been amended to label the client module API as item 1002, which is also identified in Figure 10.

The specification at page 37, line 3, has been amended to replace item --152-- with item --150--.

The specification at page 44, line 19, has been amended to delete “a draws.”

The specification at page 45, line 1, has been amended to change “Firs” to “First.”

The specification at page 45, line 18, has been amended to change “Its” to “It.”

The specification at page 45, line 34, has been amended to change “step 2606” to “step 2602.”

The specification at page 47, line 5, has been amended to change “intellectual” to “intellectual capital.”

Applicant respectfully submits the objection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

C.) Rejection of claims 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. §101:

Claim 7 has been amended as per the Examiner’s request to overcome the rejection.

Claims 8-12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 7 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 7 is allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

D.) Rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by *Devine, et al.* (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0095399) (“*Devine*”):

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Applicant’s independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 14 each claim subject matter relating to providing a datatype that has a metadata that describes a data and a reference to the data. The data is maintained separately from the datatype. The metadata includes a key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata. The datatype is published and a subscriber receives the datatype responsive to subscribing to the datatype. The subscriber also receives the other datatypes that have the key in their respective metadata.

Independent claim 15 claims a data structure comprising a datatype that has a metadata that describes a data and a reference to the data. The data is maintained separately from the datatype. The metadata includes a key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata.

Thus, each of Applicant’s independent claims claims subject matter relating to a datatype that has a metadata that includes a key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata.

This is clearly unlike *Devine*, which fails to disclose or suggest a datatype that has a metadata that includes a key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata. *Devine* discloses a publish/subscribe-based system in which subscribers can subscribe to services that are published by a service provider. *Devine* Abstract. *Devine*’s services include metadata that describes data sent with the service. *Devine* [0543]. The subscriber looks to the metadata do decide which of the received data to use and which to ignore. *Devine* [0064]. Accordingly, the subscriber sorts out which of the received data to use, thereby lowering the processing that needs to take place at the publisher before the data is published. *Devine* [0067].

Unlike Applicant’s claimed metadata, nowhere does *Devine* disclose or suggest that its metadata includes a key, let alone Applicant’s claimed key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata. In fact, *Devine* fails to discuss keys. The Examiner argues that *Devine*’s data warehouses teach Applicant’s claimed key, however, this is unrelated to Applicant’s claimed key. *Devine*’s data warehouses are merely “a collection of data automatically culled or compiled from one or more data sources...The data warehouses then

provides a convenient secure source of data.” *Devine* [0073]. Nowhere does *Devine* suggest that its data warehouses are tied in some way to metadata keys -- as discussed above, *Devine* fails to even discuss keys. Further, *Devine*’s data warehouses are sources of data. They are unrelated to datatypes that are joined with other datatypes having the same key in their respective metadata.

For at least these reasons, *Devine* fails to disclose or suggest claims 1, 7, 13, 14, and 15.

Claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 10-12 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 or 7 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 8 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

E.) Rejection of claims 3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Devine* in view of *Bracho, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,021,443)*(“*Bracho*”):

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Applicant’s independent claims 1 and 7 are allowable over *Devine* as discussed above. *Bracho* still fails to disclose or suggest a datatype that has a metadata that includes a key that enables the datatype to be joined with other datatypes having the key in their respective metadata. Therefore, *Devine* in view of *Bracho* still fails to disclose or suggest claims 1 and 7.

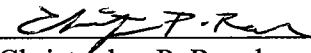
Claims 3 and 9 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 or 7 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 7 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits the rejection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-15 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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